

2024-25 DENVER NUGGETS

# YEARBOK





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**PUBLISHED BY** 

#### PROFESSIONAL SPORTS PUBLICATIONS

519 8th Ave., 10th Floor • New York, NY 10018 Tel: 212.697.1460 • Fax: 646.753.9480 www.pspsports.com



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# **KSE EXECUTIVES**



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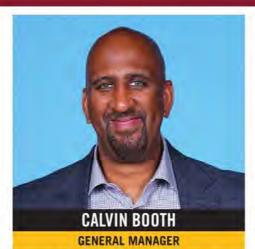




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#### **NUGGETS EXECUTIVES**



Calvin Booth enters his fifth season as General Manager with the Denver Nuggets and his third as the lead decision maker. Booth joined the Nuggets in 2017 as Assistant General Manager after spending four seasons with the Minnesota Timberwolves as Director of Player Personnel and most recently as their Director of Pro Personnel.

In his time in Denver, Booth has helped orchestrate the Nuggets ascension towards the top of the Western Conference, including winning their first NBA championship in franchise history in 2023. He works closely with KSE Vice Chairman Josh Kroenke on all aspects of team and organizational matters as they aim to keep the Nuggets among the NBA elite.

Booth enjoyed a 10-year NBA playing career (1999-2009) with the Washington Wizards, Dallas Mavericks, Seattle Sonics, Milwaukee Bucks, Philadelphia 76ers, Minnesota Timberwolves and Sacramento Kings.

In 366 career games, 83 starts, the 6-11 forward/ center averaged 3.3 points, 2.8 rebounds and 0.9 blocks per game. Booth appeared in seven games for Sacramento in the 2008-09 season before retiring in the summer of 2009. After his playing career, he served as a scout, both pro and collegiate, with the New Orleans Hornets in 2012-13.

Booth, a native of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, played college basketball at Penn State from 1995-99 and was Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year as a junior and All-Big Ten Second Team as a senior.

Booth and his wife, Keisha, and their daughters, Carter (21) and Camble (14), and sons, Carey (19) and Clarke (11) reside in Denver.



Tommy Balcetis enters his fifth season as Assistant General Manager after serving as the Vice President of Basketball Strategy and Analytics. This will be Balcetis' 11th season with the Denver Nuggets, previously holding the title of Director of Basketball Strategy & Analytics for three seasons. He also served as the Manager of Basketball Analytics from 2013 to 2016.

Balcetis works closely with General Manager Calvin Booth on day-to-day operations related to player contracts, scouting, salary cap, player movement, and other player personnel matters. He also oversees the team's analytics projects and strategic initiatives.

Balcetis graduated from Harvard University in 2010 with a degree in Economics and Psychology. His background includes working for the NBA League offices in London, England in the international media department from 2012 to 2013 and served as a business consultant at Fidelity Investments from 2010 to 2012.

Balcetis, a native of Vilnius, Lithuania, played basketball at the Sarunas Marculionis Basketball Academy before attending school in the United States. He resides in Denver with his wife Rasa and two sons.



OPERATIONS/GM, GRAND RAPIDS GOLD

Ben Tenzer enters his fourth season as the Denver Nuggets Vice President of Basketball Operations, having previously served as the team's Director of Basketball Operations. He is in his 16th season in the organization, working closely with President Josh Kroenke and General Manager Calvin Booth on all aspects of the Basketball Operations department. Additionally, Ben spearheaded the process of securing Nuggets G-League affiliate, the Grand Rapids Gold, and enters his second season as the Gold's General Manager.

His focus with the Nuggets is on day-to-day management, salary cap strategy, legal, visas and other immigration matters, insurance and player personnel.

Tenzer is a Los Angeles native and member of the California Bar. He graduated from University of Colorado, Boulder, and Southwestern Law School. He rejoined the Nuggets organization in 2013, after employment in various capacities in the front office from 2005-2009.

His background also includes working at MTV Networks (2002-2004), the NBA Vegas Summer League (2005-2012), Adidas Nations (2010-2012), and Wasserman Media Group (2010). He was also a member of the NBA's global outreach program, Basketball Without Borders-Africa, in 2007 and 2008.

He and his family reside in Denver.



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#### **NUGGETS EXECUTIVES**



Lisa Johnson enters her 44th season with the NBA Champion Denver Nuggets, where she has spent her entire professional career.

Upon graduation from the University of Denver, Johnson worked her way up through the organization beginning in season ticket sales, receptionist/ front office assistant, community relations, media relations and basketball operations before entering her current role as Vice President of Basketball Administration 11 seasons ago.

Her job duties include working closely with the various departments throughout KSE with the day-to-day business operations of the organization. Johnson also oversees the team travel, player appearance program, NBA game scheduling, basketball staff ticketing, arena security, and special Nuggets related events.

Lisa has strong roots to Denver and Colorado, she grew up in Littleton where she now resides with her husband Jim. Together they enjoy traveling, Native American art and culture, gardening, horseback riding, music and supporting the local sports teams as well as the theatre and the arts. They also make sure to find time amidst the hectic NBA life for good friends, good food and good wine.



Jim Clibanoff enters his third season as Vice President of Player Personnel after spending the 2021-22 season as the Vice President of Scouting.

This will be Clibanoff's 12th season with the Denver Nuggets front office, previously holding the title as the Director of Scouting for eight seasons.

Prior to joining the Nuggets, Clibanoff created and was president his own scouting service called "ClibHoops" to which NBA and international clubs subscribed. Over the 10 years the service ran, Clibanoff appeared as a consultant to various media outlets, providing insights on the NBA Draft and pro prospects from around the world.

Clibanoff, a native of Philadelphia, graduated from Tufts University in 1989 and got his start as Director of Player Personnel for the USBL's Philadelphia Spirit in 1991. Over the subsequent years, he earned his juris doctor from Temple University's Beasley School of Law while continuing his basketball career. Following his time with the Spirit, he continued to evaluate professional players from all over the globe and helped several secure employment in various leagues around the world before starting his personal scouting service.

Clibanoff resides in the Philly suburbs with his wife Felice and his two daughters Elle and Remie.



Scott Howard is entering his 10th season with the Denver Nuggets front office and his fourth as Director of Player Personnel. He was originally hired as Director of College Scouting prior to the 2015-16 season.

Prior to joining the Nuggets, Howard spent eight seasons with the Charlotte organization as their Director of Scouting. He spent the previous season as a scout with the Milwaukee Bucks, and spent two years before that with the Toronto Raptors as Director of International Player Personnel, where he was responsible for all aspects of player personnel outside of North America and coordinated player workouts ahead of the NBA Draft. He also served as a scout for the Washington Wizards from 2000-04.

Howard also spent 17 years as a collegiate coach, including seven seasons at the University of Miami, three seasons at the University of Nebraska, and one season each at Southern Illinois, Drake and Southern California.

Howard received his bachelor's degree in physical education in 1983 from lowa State University, where he was a two-year letterman for the basketball team. He earned his master's degree in educational administration from the University of lowa in 1985 while serving as a volunteer assistant and graduate assistant coach.





#### MICHAEL MALONE

#### HEAD COACH



Michael Malone enters his 10th season as head coach of the Denver Nuggets. He was named the 16th head coach in Denver's NBA franchise history on June 15, 2015. He is now the fourth longest tenured coach in the NBA and currently ranks second all-time amongst Nuggets head coaches with 424 wins.

Last season saw Coach Malone lead the Nuggets to a 57-25 record, tying the franchise record for most wins in a season. They clinched the number two overall seed in the Western Conference and playoff berth for the sixth straight year.

Malone has helped lead the Nuggets to at least one playoff series victory in five of the last six seasons. Since 2018-19, Denver has nine playoff series victories, which doubles the franchise total for the previous 32 years. Malone has totaled 44 postseason wins, ranking him first all-time in franchise history for most playoff victories passing Doug Moe with 24.

Since Malone took over prior to the 2015-16 season, the Nuggets have seen the postseason on six occasions including an NBA Championship 2023 and two Western Conference Finals. The Nuggets are also second in the NBA, trailing only the Milwaukee Bucks for the most combined regular season and postseason wins in a six-year span with 342. Additionally, based on winning percentage, Malone has overseen five of the top ten seasons in NBA franchise history.

Malone has 463 victories as an NBA head coach and possesses over 27 years of coaching experience, 23 coming in the NBA with six different teams — New York, Cleveland, New Orleans, Golden State, Sacramento and Denver. The teams that Malone has been a member of the coaching staff have amassed 14 playoff appearances, including two NBA Finals showing and four conference finals appearances. Malone and his staff have also been selected to coach two All-Star games, most recently in 2023 where he coached Team LeBron at the in Salt Lake

City, UT, falling to Team Giannis 184-175.

Before joining the Nuggets, Malone served as the head coach of the Sacramento Kings for two seasons. Before his time with the Kings, Malone was the lead assistant for the Golden State Warriors under Mark Jackson from 2011-13 where they clinched a postseason berth in 2013, their first since 2007.

Prior to Golden State, Malone worked as the lead assistant to Monty Williams in New Orleans and helped the Hornets achieve a 46-36 record and a trip to the 2011 NBA Playoffs. The Hornets were the most improved defensive team in the NBA in 2011, allowing a league-best 8.7 fewer points per game than in the previous campaign (94.0 ppg, after giving up 102.7 ppg in 2009-10).

Malone also served as an assistant coach under Mike Brown for the Cleveland Cavaliers for five seasons, during which the Cavs posted a 272-138 (.663) record, the third-best mark in the NBA over that span. The Cavaliers made five consecutive playoff appearances during Malone's time on the bench, reaching the NBA Finals in 2007 and the Eastern Conference Finals in 2009. In 2008-09, the Cavs notched a franchise record and NBA-best 66 wins, with Malone and the rest of the team's staff earning the right to coach the Eastern Conference All-Star squad. In 2009-10, the Cavaliers again captured the league's best regular season record with 61 wins.

Malone's NBA coaching career began with a four-season stint with the New York Knicks, where he originally joined Jeff Van Gundy's staff as a coaching associate in the summer of 2001, and was promoted to assistant coach in May 2003.

Before joining the NBA, Malone coached seven years in the college ranks, with his last stop coming at Manhattan College where he was the lead assistant. During the 1998-99 season Malone worked at the University of Virginia as its director of men's basketball administration. Malone also spent three seasons (1995-96 — 1997-98) at Providence College under New York Basketball Hall of Fame coach Pete Gillen after beginning his coaching career working for Greg Kampe at Oakland University in Michigan.

Malone is a three-time participant in the NBA's "Basketball Without Borders" program, having coached at the league's global outreach camps in Africa (2017), Puerto Rico (2006) and Argentina (2005). In 2017 Malone traveled to Johannesburg, South Africa where he spent a week coaching at the BWB camps and then served as an assistant coach for Team Africa, for the NBA Africa Game 2017.

Malone also served as an assistant coach for the Canadian Men's Senior National Team for three years. He helped guide the Canadian team to a top-four finish in the 2009 FIBA Americas Championship in Puerto Rico, qualifying Canada for the 2010 World Championships.

A native of Queens, New York, Malone played college basketball at Loyola College in Maryland, where he graduated with a BA degree in 1994. He is a graduate of New Jersey's Seton Hall Prep where he played two years under Bob Farrell. Malone also played a season under Tom Blackburn at Worcester Academy (Mass.).

Michael is the son of longtime NBA coach Brendan Malone, who coached over 28 years in the league.

He and his wife, Jocelyn, have two daughters, Caitlin and Bridget.



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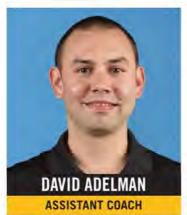
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#### **ASSISTANT COACHES**



David Adelman begins his eighth season as assistant coach with the Denver Nuggets. Adelman served as an assistant coach during the 2016-17 season with the Orlando Magic before starting his tenure in Denver, He also spent the previous five seasons (2011-16) with Minnesota, including the final three as an assistant coach. His NBA career began in 2011 as a player development coach. He also served as head coach for the Timberwolves summer league team for three seasons. Prior to joining the Timberwolves, Adelman spent five seasons as head basketball coach at Lincoln High School in Portland, Oregon.

Adelman went 83-53 (.610) during his five seasons at Lincoln, leading the Cardinals to three Portland Interscholastic district championships (2006-07, 2009-10, 2010-11). He also guided Lincoln to the Oregon Class 6A state championship final in 2009. Adelman was named PIL Coach of the Year three times. Prior to coaching at Lincoln, Adelman was an assistant coach at his alma mater, Jesuit High School in Portland, from 2001-06, helping the team win the state championship in 2005. He also helped Jesuit capture a state title as a player in 1999.

Adelman has participated in the NBA's Basketball Without Borders program, serving as a coach in Russia, China and Africa. He has also served as head coach at numerous clinics and camps, including Adidas Nations and the Pan Pacific Games. Adelman attended the University of Portland before joining the Jesuit staff.

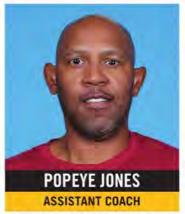
Adelman is the son of Hall of Famer Rick Adelman, who served as an NBA head coach for 23 seasons. He has a degree in history from Southern New Hampshire University. Adelman and his wife, Jenny, have one son, Leonard Joseph (L.J.), and one daughter, Lennan Marie.



Ryan Saunders enters his third season with the Nuggets coaching staff after previously serving as the Head Coach of the Minnesota Timberwolves from 2019-2021.

Before joining Minnesota's staff, Saunders spent five seasons as an assistant coach with the Washington Wizards. Saunders was heavily involved in game preparation for upcoming opponents, creating extensive scouting reports and statistical analysis. A University of Minnesota graduate, Saunders worked on Tubby Smith's staff at his alma mater after playing four seasons with the Golden Gophers where he was a two-time captain, four-time scholar athlete award winner and a 2006 Big Ten All-Academic selection. He earned his bachelor's degree in sport management.

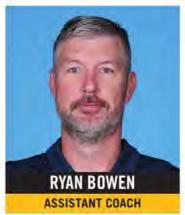
Saunders is the son of Debbie and Flip Saunders, a 17-year NBA coaching veteran and the all-time winningest coach in Minnesota Timberwolves franchise history.



Popeye Jones enters his fourth season with the Nuggets coaching staff after spending the 2020-21 season as an assistant coach with the Philadelphia 76ers. Prior to Philadelphia, Jones spent seven seasons with the Indiana Pacers as an assistant coach.

Jones had a three-year tenure with the Brooklyn/New Jersey Nets front office, starting in player development before transitioning to an assistant coach role. He began his coaching career with the Dallas Mavericks where he worked in player development. Jones played collegiately at Murray State, where he is fourth on the Racers' all-time scoring list. In 1992, the school retired his No. 54. A second-round pick in the 1992 NBA Draft, Jones played one season in Italy before joining the Mavericks in 1993. Jones also appeared in 40 games during the 1999-2000 with the Nuggets, averaging 2.6 points and 2.6 rebounds in 8.3 minutes per game. Jones career spanned 11 seasons, appearing in 535 games (304 starts) for Dallas, Toronto, Boston, Denver, Washington and Golden State. He held career averages of 7.0 points and 7.4 rebounds in 23.5 minutes per game prior to retiring in 2004.

Jones is the proud father of four sons, Justin, Seth, Caleb and Camden. Seth and Caleb currently play professional hockey in the NHL.



Ryan Bowen enters his 10th season with the Denver Nuggets coaching staff and his 14th season as an assistant coach in the NBA. Bowen spent two seasons (2011-12 and 2012-13) with Denver before joining Coach Malone's staff in Sacramento and then returned to the Nuggets in 2015. In his role with Denver, he assists in all aspects on the coaching staff, including on-court player development.

A 10-year NBA veteran, he appeared in 507 career games with the Nuggets (1999-2000 – 2003-04), Houston Rockets (2004-05 – 2005-06), New Orleans Hornets (2007-08 and 2008-09) and Oklahoma City Thunder (2009-10). His professional experience includes time playing overseas for Oyak Renault (Turkey) and Ironi Nahariya (Israel). Bowen was selected by the Nuggets in the second round (55th overall) of the 1998 NBA Draft and was recently selected to the Nuggets All-Time Top 50 players voted on by local media.

As a collegian, Bowen enjoyed a four-year career at the University of Iowa, posting 14.4 points, 8.7 rebounds and 2.5 assists per contest during his senior year in 1997-98. He finished his career at lowa as the school's career field goal percentage leader (.575) and career steals leader (208) and ranks fourth in blocks (124) and eighth in rebounds (804). A two-time All-Big Ten selection, Bowen was inducted into the lowa Boys Basketball Hall of Fame in 2012. Following retirement from professional basketball in 2009, Bowen returned to his alma mater as video coordinator for the Hawkeyes, working in that capacity for one season before departing lowa City for a spot on the Nuggets coaching staff.

A native of Fort Madison, lowa, Bowen and his wife, Wendy, have a daughter, Isabel, and two sons, Benjamin and Zachary. Ben is currently a junior, playing basketball at Denver University.



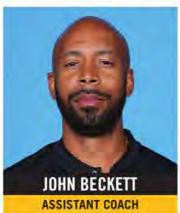
#### **ASSISTANT COACHES**



Charles Klask enters his 23rd year in the NBA and seventh season with the Denver Nuggets after spending the previous four years with the Detroit Pistons coaching staff.

Previously, Klask spent the 2013-14 season as an assistant coach/advance scout with the Brooklyn Nets. He also served as an assistant coach with the Pistons from 2011-13 and worked for the Orlando Magic from 2002-11 as a video coordinator, advance scout and the last four years as the scouting information manager. Before joining the Magic, Klask got his start in the NBA with the Pistons as a video coordinating intern in the summer of 2001 and then became the video coordinator of the Detroit Shock of the WNBA. The previous two years he worked as a coaching assistant with the Grand Rapids Hoops of the CBA and worked as an assistant coach for the Dodge City Legend of the USBL during the summer of 2000. Prior to working in professional basketball, Charles coached high school boys and girls at East Lansing High School and Livonia Stevenson.

A native of Livonia, MI, Klask attended Livonia Stevenson High School and is a graduate of Michigan State University after transferring from Schoolcraft community college and Wayne State University. He and his wife, Brienne, have two children.

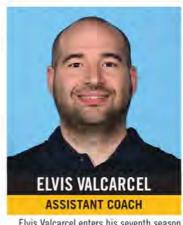


John Beckett enters his 11th season on the Nuggets coaching staff and sixth as an assistant coach after spending the previous four seasons as Director of Player Development.

Prior to coming to Denver, Beckett was an assistant coach with the Delaware 87ers of the NBA Development League where he was responsible for conducting individual pregame and pre-practice workouts for players, developing player strength-and-conditioning programs and preparing advanced scouting reports on upcoming opponents. He also helped prepare practice plans and provided detailed progress and scouting reports on 87ers opponents throughout the season.

Before joining the 87ers, Beckett spent nine years with the Atlanta Hawks (2004-13), serving as the team's video coordinator and assisting with player development. In addition to creating video edits as part of the team's game preparation, Beckett led and assisted in workouts and traveled as a college scout. In addition to his work on the court, Beckett spent 14 years as a freelance production contributor for Turner Sports and NBA TV. He was a member of the Emmy Award-winning "NBA on TNT" studio show.

After being named the 1996-97 Fayette County Player of the Year at Sandy Creek High School, Beckett attended Georgia State University before transferring to Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla., in 1998. Beckett helped the Tritons to the NCAA Division II National Tournament in 2001 and graduated with a degree in Business Management. He later played professionally for the Bergheim Bandits in Germany.



Elvis Valcarcel enters his seventh season with the Nuggets coaching staff and third season as an assistant coach after previously serving the past four seasons as an assistant coach/advance scout.

Prior to his tenure in Denver, Elvis spent three seasons with the New Orleans Pelicans as an assistant coach and special assistant to the head coach.

Valcarcel joined the Pelicans after serving as the video coordinator for the Sacramento Kings from 2013-15. Before joining the Kings, Valcarcel was the video coordinator for the Phoenix Suns from 2009-13 after serving as the assistant video coordinator during the 2008-09 season. While with the Suns, Valcarcel also was an assistant coach for the Suns' NBA Summer League squad in 2010 and 2012 and did advance scouting in 2011 and 2012. Valcarcel was also the video coordinator for the Phoenix Mercury in 2009 as they capture the WNBA championship. Prior to Phoenix, Valcarcel worked two years as an administrative assistant/ video coordinator for the men's basketball program at Seton Hall University.

From Union City, N.J., Valcarcel earned a physical education. He resides Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice with his wife and two daughters. and sociology from Rutgers University.



Ognjen Stojakovic enters his 11th season with the Denver Nuggets and fifth season as an assistant coach.

Stojakovic began in Denver as a video assistant in 2014 and since has been promoted to player development coach in 2016, followed by director of player development in 2019 and has been in his current role since 2021. Stojakovic, a native of Serbia, has also served as an assistant coach to the legendary Svetislav Pesic on the Serbian national team since 2023. He helped bring Serbia a bronze medal at the 2024 Olympic games and silver medal at the 2023 FIBA World Cup.

Prior to his time with the Nuggets, he owned and operated the Stojakovic Basketball Academy, a consulting business focusing on player development and aiding European basketball clubs.

He also served as the head coach for three different teams (U16, U18 and the senior team) at B.C. Belgrade College from 2009-2011

Stojakovic attended Belgrade University and graduated with a master's degree in physical education. He resides in Denver with his wife and two daughters. naturally loved from first swipe

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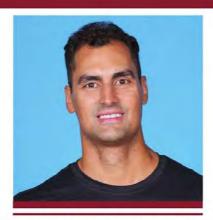
# PERFORMANCE STAFF



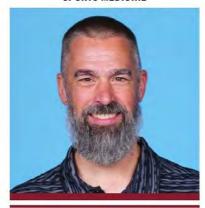
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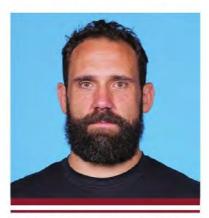
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# THE HISTORY BEHIND NIKOLA JOKIĆ'S THIRD REGULAR SEASON MVP AWARD

#### BY MATT BROOKS

Nikola Jokić winning a third regular season Kia NBA Most Valuable Player Award is a remarkable accomplishment for a player whose career has thus far been entirely remarkable. He received 79 out of 99 first-place votes, 18 second-place votes, and 2 third-place votes for a total of 926 points.

Jokić led the Denver Nuggets to a top-two seed in the Western Conference for the second consecutive season. The Nuggets boasted the second-best home record and the best record against below-.500 teams in the NBA. Denver finished top-10 in offense (fifth) and defense (ninth) for the first time in the Jokić era.

To celebrate Nikola's major accomplishment, we'll be looking at his MVP season from three angles: the historical significance of a third MVP, the statistics behind his MVP year, and some highlights from Jokić's 2023-24 season.

#### THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF MVP NUMBER THREE

Winning a third regular season MVP award puts Jokić in an exclusive class... a class comprised of all-timers from the NBA's 75th Anniversary team. Here's a full list of the nine players who have won three MVPs or more.

Six MVPs: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Five MVPs: Michael Jordan and Bill Russell

Four MVPs: LeBron James and Wilt Chamberlain

Three MVPs: Larry Bird, Magic Johnson, Moses Malone,

and now, Nikola Jokić

Jokić has won the MVP award in three of his last four seasons: 2021, 2022, and now, 2024. The one year he didn't win the award—in 2023—he finished second place in voting to Joel Embiid. He's received at least one MVP vote for six years and counting.

That's three MVPs in nine seasons for Nikola. However, he wasn't even a full-time starter until 2017-18, his third season in the NBA. In the seasons he's been a full-time starter, he's won the MVP award three times in seven tries. It's been a truly dominant run.

Now, you might be wondering, why wasn't Nikola a starter until year three? Well, Jokić was selected 41st overall in the 2014 NBA Draft. He had to earn his spot.

He's the only second-rounder to ever get selected as an NBA MVP, and he's now done it three times. That's a crazy accomplishment. For context, only 38 second-round draft picks have even made an All-Star team since the NBA-ABA merger in 1976. You could make a strong case that, given where he was selected and the accomplishments he's racked up in his still-young NBA career, Nikola is the greatest draft pick in NBA history.







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#### THE STATISTICS OF JOKIC'S MVP SEASON

Jokić commandeered a top-10 offense and defense for the first time in his career, but statistically speaking, there's a lot more to his prolific season.

Nikola finished fifth in total points, third in total rebounds, second in total assists, and eighth in total steals. He's the only player in NBA history to be top-10 in all four categories in a single season.

Jokić was the only player in the League that averaged at least 25 points, 10 rebounds, and 9 assists. He's the sixth player to ever put up those numbers in a single season.

He led the entire League in on/off offensive efficiency at plus-18.9 points per 100 possessions. That's the best offensive efficiency of his career. He also finished first in total plus-minus at plus-682.

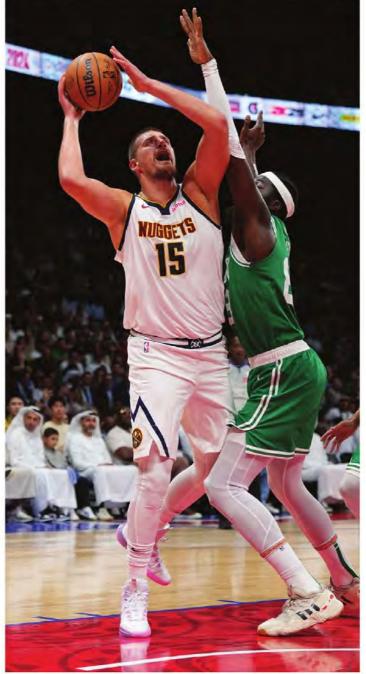
Jokić was first in VORP (Value Over Replacement Player), PER (Player Efficiency Rating), Win Shares, Offensive Win Shares, Box Plus/Minus, Offensive Box Plus/Minus, and Defensive Box Plus/Minus.

Every single Nuggets starter had a higher effective field goal percentage with Jokić on the floor compared to him off it.

Jokić recorded the second-most double-doubles in the league with 68 and the

second-most triple-doubles with 25. He set the Nuggets' single-season franchise record for double-doubles in a season.

These are just a few of the utterly incredible numbers Jokić put up this season. Check out our article on his 2023-24 season, broken down by the numbers, if you want to learn more.







#### SHINING MOMENTS FROM NIKOLA'S 2023-24 REGULAR SEASON

Let's timeline Nikola's MVP season, shall we?

In Denver's very first game, Ring Night at home, Jokić dropped 29 points, 13 rebounds, and 11 assists for his first triple-double of the season just hours after receiving his 2023 NBA Championship ring. He helped defeat the Los Angeles Lakers, 119-107, in a rollicking Opening Night victory.

Jokić would then have a stretch from November 6 to November 14 where he dropped at least 30 points in four consecutive games. In two of those four showings, he recorded a triple-double. He became the 26th player ever to drop at least 35 points, 20 rebounds, and 10 assists in a game when he finished with 36 points, 21 rebounds, and 11 assists against the Houston Rockets on November 11th.







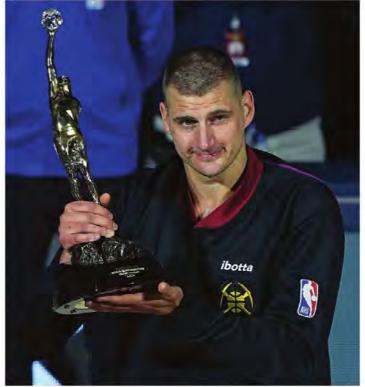




Now, things really got crazy at the turn of the new year when Jokić missed two total shots in three games from December 28 to January 1. You could make a case that it was the single most efficient three-game run in modern NBA history. He had the highest field goal percentage (92.9 percent) with at least 25 total shots in a three-game span since the NBA-ABA merger.

That brings us to, by far, the highlight of Jokić's 2023-24 season. January 4 against the Golden State Warriors. A wonderful day in Nuggets history. Denver mounted an 18-point fourth quarter comeback to tie the ball game, and then Jokić hit one of the wildest halfcourt game-winners you'll ever see to top it off.





Nikola was a force out of the All-Star break and recorded four consecutive triple-doubles after his sixth career All-Star selection. During that stretch, he became the first player to ever tally 32 points, 16 rebounds, 16 assists, and 4 steals in a game (February 25th against the Golden State Warriors). This would help his Nuggets win 15 of 17 games out of the break.

During that impressive stretch, Jokić and the Nuggets captured their second victory of the season against the Celtics on March 7th. Nikola recorded a triple-double with 32 points, 12 rebounds, and 11 assists, plus 2 steals. Two games later, he became the first player to ever drop 35 points, 17 rebounds, 12 assists, and 6 steals in a game (March 11th against the Toronto Raptors).

On March 31 against the Cleveland Cavaliers, Jokić dropped 26 points, 18 rebounds, and 16 assists. He became just the 10th player in NBA history to drop at least 25 points, 18 rebounds, and 15 assists in a game. In his next outing, Jokić tied his season-high of 42 points to go with 16 rebounds against the Sacramento Kings.

Here's a good one to end on. Jokić dropped 41 points, 11 rebounds, 7 assists, and 3 steals against the Minnesota Timberwolves on April 10th. This would help the Nuggets secure second place over the third-place Timberwolves at the end of the season. It was a monstrous performance in one of Denver's most important games of the year.

Nikola>s third MVP is a special one. It>s statistically historic, and it puts him in a very prestigious class of all-time greats.

What a treat it is to have Nikola Jokić in Denver.



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# TO THE TOP

THE NUGGETS ARE DETERMINED TO SCALE BACK UP TO THEIR CHAMPIONSHIP HEIGHTS



Nuggets fans who are hoping for another chance at championship parade and all of the fun that comes from an NBA title don't have to worry.

There is still plenty of time to get that feeling again.

Denver enters the 2024-25 season with an experienced core, a highly-respected coach in Michael Malone, who is beginning his 10th season at the helm, a strong supporting cast and a star offseason acquisition who should inject even more energy into the team's Mile High personality. They also have plenty of motivation after last year's second-round playoff exit.

Mostly, it's because the Nuggets have Nikola Jokić, the best basketball player in the world.

"We believe that Nikola has a 10-year window of being an elite player," Nuggets

GM Calvin Booth said at the team's Media Day. "That gives us a championship window, and it will be great if we can find a way to get another one."

Winning the 2023 crown established a set of expectations for the Nuggets that bring pressure but also the respect that comes from being one of the NBA's best. Denver is clearly a serious contender for the top spot in the Western Conference, and its goal of reaching another Finals series is one that is quite realistic.

It begins, of course, with Jokić, the remarkable pivotman who plays at times like a point guard but who also would have been at home in days of old, when big men patrolled the lane and protected the rim with tenacity. But the rest of the Nugget principals are just as vital to the championship effort.

CONTINUED.



This summer, Denver locked up star guard Jamal Murray to a four-year contract extension, assuring the big backcourt producer will be with the franchise until 2029. He and Jokić form one of the League's top inside-outside combinations, and Murray's outstanding performance in the 2023 Finals was a big reason Denver won the title. Forwards Aaron Gordon and Michael Porter Jr. are stalwarts who cause matchup problems for rivals and take pressure off Jokić and Murray. The Core Four is talented and experienced. It's also eager to contend for another title.

"We know how difficult it is to repeat as a champion," Murray said about the 2023-24 season. "But I think the good thing is that we know what it takes to win a championship. So we have to take it day by day."

The commitment to that one-game-at-a-time grind will be made stronger by the arrival of veteran guard Russell Westbrook, who continues to be one of the League's most energetic players and a real force in transition — at both ends. The Nuggets also added veteran Dario Šarić, a highly-skilled forward who can help facilitate the offense.









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"Winning inspires me and then what really inspires me is my people, my partners, my team, my brothers."

–AARON GORDON



But it starts with Jokić, who has won three of the last four MVP awards, including last year's, to become just the ninth player in NBA history to earn the honor three times. There is no reason to expect him to be anything other than amazing again, thanks to his ability to set up open looks from all angles, rebound better than just about anybody in the League, work in the post, hit the jumper and defend. In other words, he is the most complete player in the world.

"I think he's stated his case pretty well." Murray said when Jokić won the MVP last year. "He does it every night. It's hard to do what he does and face the kind of pressure that he does each and every game. He does it with a smile on his face. He makes everybody around us better. And he's a leader on the court and somebody that we expect greatness from every time he steps on the court and he's delivered."

Murray has certainly gotten the job done, too. That's why the Nuggets felt it was vital to re-sign him during the offseason. He runs the team, scores in bunches and was exceptional during the 2023 title run. Murray's allaround game is more than just insurance that teams can't focus entirely on Jokić. It features the skills





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that have made him one of the league's most productive guards. Even though he hasn't yet been named an All-Star – unbelievably – Murray is happy with his role in Denver, and with his championship ring.

"I mean I'm doing it," Murray told The Athletic last winter.
"I'm an All-Star when you need the All-Star to show up — in the playoffs. You want the best to step up (then), right? And I think I do a good job of that. So I kind of backed myself up in that way. That's it. That's what it is. So it's just more fuel to the fire.

"But (not being selected an All-Star) doesn't hurt me like that, psychologically. I haven't made it for so long, and I'm a champion. And I'm on the best team in the world playing with the best player in the world (in Jokić)."

The forward duo of Porter and Gordon may not get the same attention as Jokić and Murray do, but they remain vital to the Nuggets success, thanks to each player's ability to do many things on the court.

## "We want to remind everyone of who we are."

-MICHAEL MALONE

Porter may be 6-10, but he's an excellent long-range shooter, who should get even more 3-point opportunities this season. Porter also sweeps clean the boards and is deadly from the foul line. Gordon works closer to the hoop and is also a strong rebounder, but he is also a proficient passer, something that makes Denver even more dangerous. And his alley-oop relationship with Jokić is otherworldly and something that puts big pressure on rivals that push their defenses out to the perimeter. Gordon may not get much publicity, but he understands what is important.

"Winning inspires me," Gordon said on Media Day. "And then what really inspires me is my people, my partners, my team, my brothers. When the days are hard, that's what gets me out of bed. I think Nikola Jokić is probably going to go down as one of the best to ever play the game. So, working my tail off so he can maximize his time in the NBA. Same thing with [Russell Westbrook]. I think he's gonna be a Hall of





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Famer, too. Doing whatever I can to try and get him a ring and just holding up my end of the bargain so at the end of the day, these guys win, too."

Adding Westbrook gives the Nuggets a dynamic presence at guard. He can score, set up teammates and defend. It is never a bad thing to have another future Hall of Famer on the roster.

"I think we are lucky that we have Russ on our team," Jokić said.

Nuggets fans will likely feel even more happy about having youngsters Christian Braun and Julian Strawther on the court this season. Expect Braun to step into the starting lineup, and the third-year guard will get the chance to contribute with increased three-point opportunities — he has great range — and important defensive assignments. Strawther enters his second year, and after fighting a knee injury last season looks ready to step forward, especially after his strong summer league performance. He has the potential to be a valuable weapon on the wing.

The Nuggets may not be defending an NBA title this year, but they have tremendous talent and the potential to return to the Finals. Malone knows that.

"I tell my players all the time that failure can be a motivation," Malone said.

"But we have to make sure that the failure of last year isn't fatal. We have to come back with a mindset of attacking this season. We want to remind everyone of who we are."

And who they can be.



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# CHRISTIAN BRAUN

GUARD • 6'6" • 220 • KANSAS



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WITH FIVE ASSISTS IN 34 MINUTES VS. OKC ON 11/23





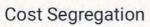
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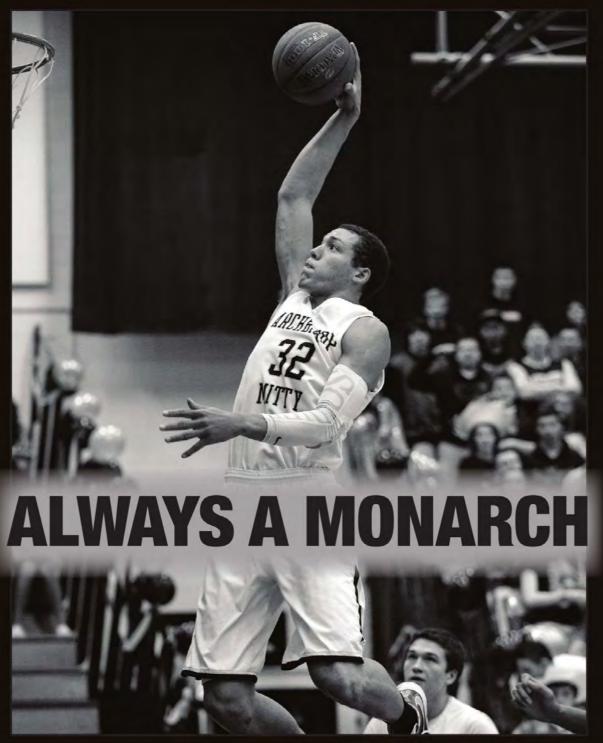
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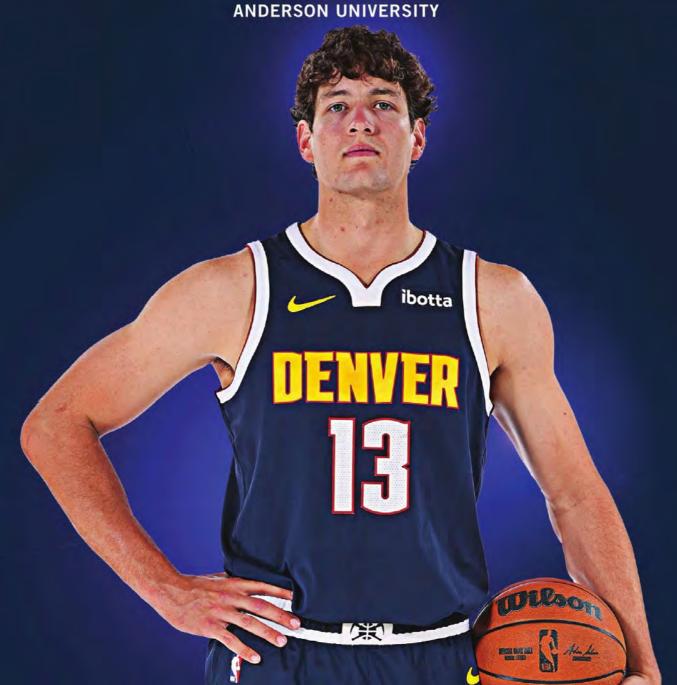


# P.J. HALL

CENTER • 6'10" • 245 • CLEMSON



SIGNED TO A TWO-WAY CONTRACT BY THE DENVER NUGGETS ... PLAYED FOUR SEASONS AT CLEMSON, PLAYING IN 120 GAMES (92 STARTS), AVERAGING 14.2 POINTS, 5.3 REBOUNDS, 1.1 ASSISTS, AND 1.1 BLOCKS ... SISTER, THAYER, WAS A STANDOUT VOLLEYBALL PLAYER FOR THE FLORIDA GATORS AND BROTHER, CHRIS, PLAYED BASKETBALL AT





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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

#### October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Th	Fri	Sat
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FORWARD • 6'7" • 225 • STANFORD



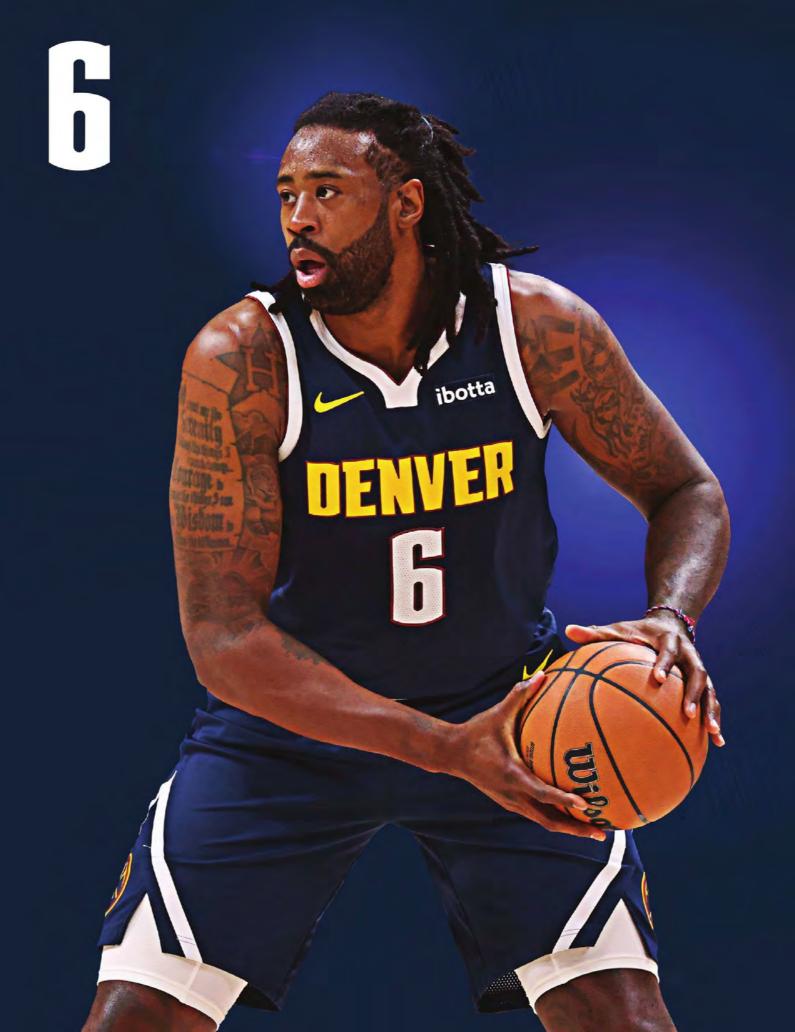
SIGNED TO A TWO-WAY CONTRACT BY THE DENVER NUGGETS ... PLAYED FOUR SEASONS AT STANFORD, FINISHING WITH 11.0 POINTS, 4.1 REBOUNDS, 1.2 ASSISTS, AND 1.0 STEALS IN 28.3 MINUTES PER GAME



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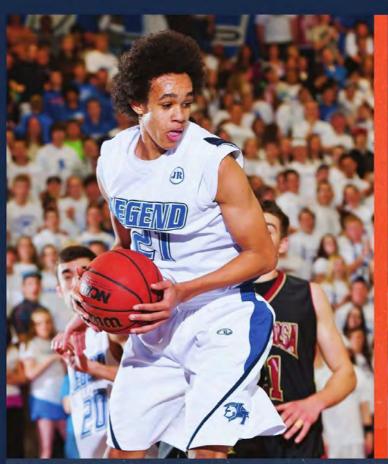


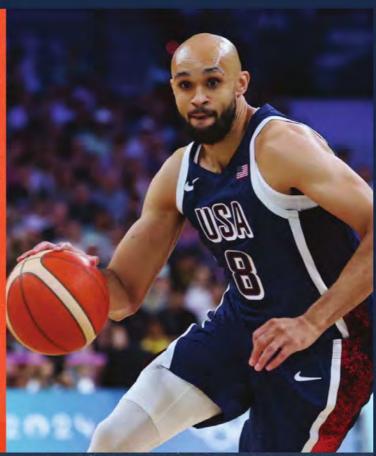
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GUARD • 6'2" • 202 • PENN STATE



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FORWARD • 6'10" • 218 • MISSOURI



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ON 9/29/21 ... HAS CAREER AVERAGES OF 15.7 POINTS, 6.2 REBOUNDS AND
1.2 ASSISTS IN 27.8 MINUTES OVER 268 GAMES (214 STARTS)









# JARIC SARIC

FORWARD-CENTER • 6'10" • 225 • CROATIA



DRAFTED BY THE ORLANDO MAGIC IN THE FIRST ROUND, 12TH OVERALL,
OF THE 2014 NBA DRAFT ... HAS APPEARED IN 477 NBA GAMES
FOR GOLDEN STATE, OKLAHOMA CITY, PHOENIX, MINNESOTA, AND
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Currently, there is a 50/50 chance a child could inherit the disease if a parent has HD in their family line.

There is a way to stop the gene from being passed on, through in vitro fertilization, or IVF. A procedure that implants embryos that do not have the HD gene can cost upwards of \$25,000 - \$30,000. This treatment is the only way parents who are at risk can guarantee their biological child will be HD-free.

#### **OUR GOALS**

- Provide the finances for families who are at-risk and in financial need and are willing to undergo IVF in order to stop the HD gene from being passed on in their family line.
- Our broader focus is to continue developing partnerships with fertility clinics across the country and raising funds to help cover these costs for many more families.
- HelpCureHD has already awarded 136 families through its grant program, which means Huntington's Disease will be eradicated from dozens of family lines FOREVER. HCHD has welcomed dozens of healthy babies already born, and many on the way!

### Help**CureHD**

helpcurehd.org







## JULIAN STRAWTHER

GUARD • 6'6" • 205 • GONZAGA



DRAFTED IN THE FIRST ROUND, 29TH OVERALL, BY INDIANA IN THE 2023

NBA DRAFT ... DRAFT RIGHTS WERE TRADED TO THE DENVER NUGGETS

ON 6/23/23 ... APPEARED IN 50 GAMES DURING HIS ROOKIE SEASON,

AVERAGING 4.5 POINTS AND 1.2 REBOUNDS IN 10.9 MINUTES





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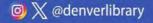
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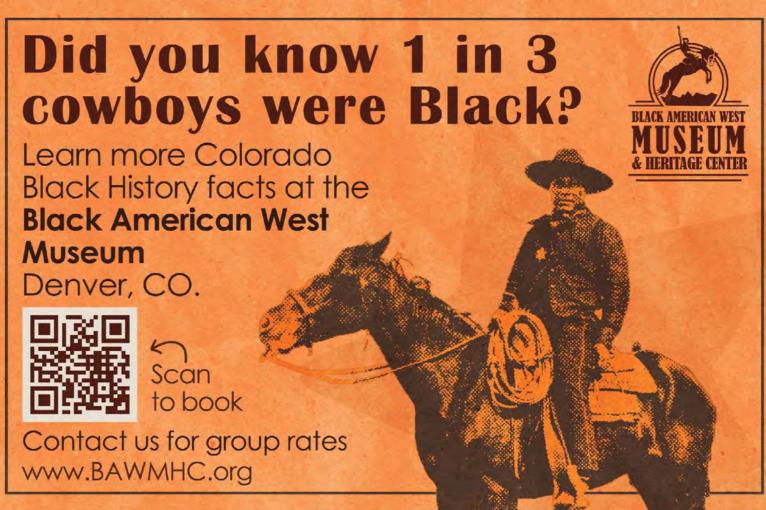
## HILLER TYSON

FORWARD • 6'8" • 215 • CLEMSON



SELECTED IN THE SECOND ROUND WITH PICK 7 IN THE 2023 NBA DRAFT
BY OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER ... APPEARED IN 18 GAMES IN HIS ROOKIE
SEASON WHILE SHOOTING 40% FG ... APPEARED IN 17 GAMES FOR THE
G LEAGUE GRAND RAPIDS GOLD, AVERAGING 23.8 POINTS, 8.0 REBOUNDS,
2.4 ASSISTS, AND 1.3 STEALS IN 37.2 MINUTES







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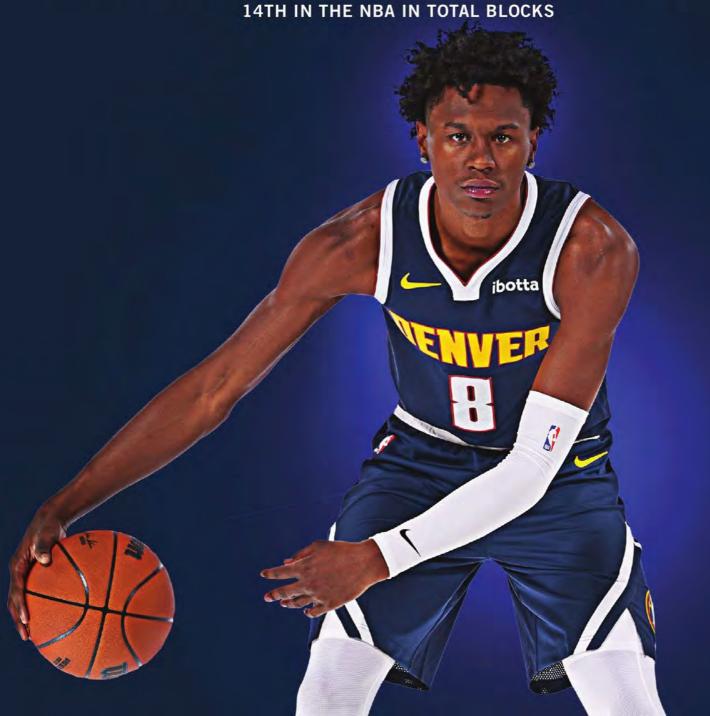


## FYTON WATSON

GUARD • 6'7" • 200 • UCLA



DRAFTED BY THE DENVER NUGGETS IN THE FIRST ROUND, 30TH OVERALL,
IN THE 2022 NBA DRAFT ... APPEARED IN 80 GAMES IN HIS SECOND
SEASON, AVERAGING 6.7 POINTS, 3.2 REBOUNDS, 1.1 ASSISTS, AND 1.1
BLOCKS PER GAME IN 18.6 MINUTES ... BLOCKED 88 SHOTS, TIED FOR







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# RISSELL WESTBROCK

GUARD • 6'4" • 200 • UCLA



HAS APPEARED IN 1,162 NBA GAMES (1,039 STARTS) FOR THE CLIPPERS, LAKERS, WIZARDS, ROCKETS, AND THUNDER ... OWNS CAREER AVERAGES OF 21.7 POINTS, 7.1 REBOUNDS, 8.1 ASSISTS, AND 1.6 STEALS IN 33.6 MINUTES PER GAME ... NAMED NBA MVP IN 2016-17 ... NBA'S ALL-TIME LEADER IN TRIPLE-DOUBLES (199) ENTERING 2024-25 SEASON







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NBA DEBUT: DECEMBER 15, 1990

BIRTHPLACE: ROCKY MOUNTAINS

HEIGHT: 5'10"

WEIGHT: 154 LBS

TAIL LENGTH: 3 FEET

One of the most recognizable and beloved mascots in the NBA, SuperMascot Rocky has become a staple at every Nuggets home game. His daring acrobatics and innovative skits make his performances eagerly anticipated by fans and players alike.

Rocky is an integral part of the community programs of the Denver Nuggets and makes countless appearances at schools of all levels throughout the state of Colorado. In addition, Rocky has made several appearances for other professional sports teams and has performed on behalf of the NBA at the All-Star Game, as well as several international functions.

You can book Rocky for your event whether its a school event, corporate event, birthday party, wedding, or anything else! Please visit:

https://www.nba.com/nuggets/supermascot-rocky





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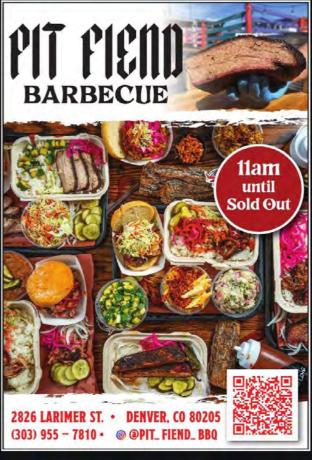
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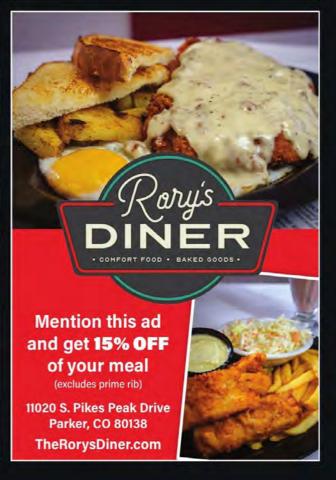
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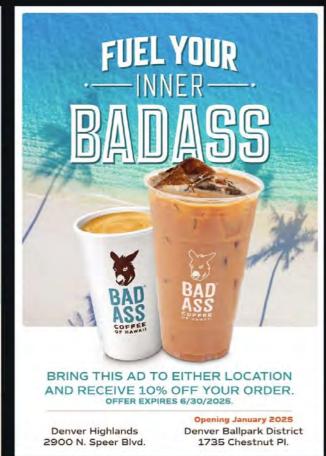
**PAULA** 

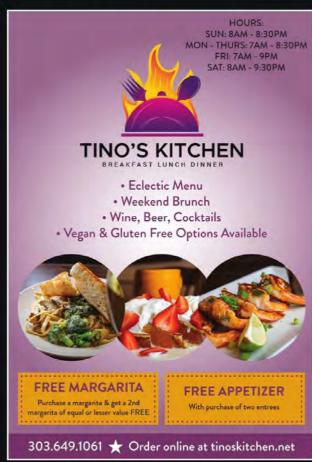


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#### MILE®HIGH BASKETBALL

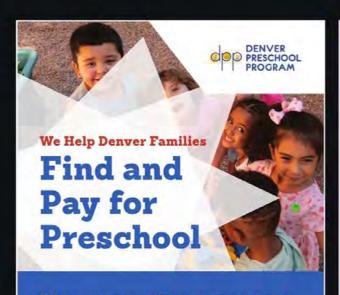
#### SKYLINE DRUMLINE



Kroenke Sports & Entertainment, along with the Denver Nuggets, are proud to present for the ninth consecutive season, the Skyline Drumline. A part of the Game Presentation Department, this unique entertainment team further enhances the Nuggets game night experience and continues to raise the bar across the league for NBA entertainment.

The Skyline Drumline is a professional interactive drum team that can be heard in and around Ball Arena, as well as at Nuggets events around the state of Colorado. This group of the cities most gifted percussionists perform at every home game during play, timeouts, and select halftimes, making them another prominent element of the nightly entertainment lineup. From the moment fans arrive at Ball Arena, the drumline has an astounding presence that has become a fan favorite.

For more information on how to book the Skyline Drumline for your next event, please visit nba.com/nuggets/skyline-drumline.



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#### MILE®HIGH BASKETBALL

#### COMMUNITY

#### **NUGGET FOR A DAY**

The Nugget for a Day program, presented by Rocky Mountain Children's, recognizes well-rounded individuals who have exhibited a positive attitude, good citizenship, and commitment to the community while undergoing hardships. Six Nugget for a Day participants are selected each season and receive a once-in-a-lifetime experience with their families. Nugget for a Day participants receive an official gameday itinerary, including the opportunity to attend a Nuggets practice and meet the team, four premium seats to a Nuggets game, dinner and in-game recognition, and a Nuggets gift bag. The program is open to children ages 5-17, including Make-A-Wish honorees, as well as special Wish of a Lifetime candidates ages 65+.



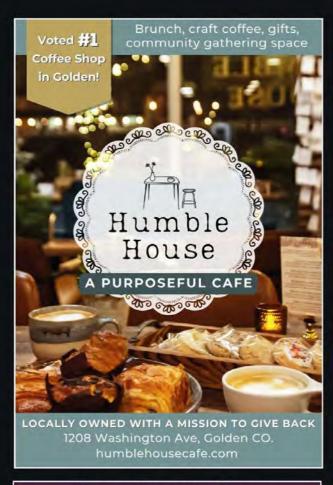
#### SPECIAL OLYMPICS BASKETBALL CLINIC

For over 36 years, the Denver Nuggets signature community event has been the annual basketball clinic with Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO). Nuggets players, coaches, ambassadors, SuperMascot Rocky, Nuggets Dancers, and Altitude talent host 100+ SOCO athletes and their families for a special day at Ball Arena each year. The Clinic features drill stations that include passing, dribbling, shooting, defense, and conditioning — all led by Nuggets players, Ambassadors, staff, and celebrities. SOCO Athletes also receive their own custom player card and sign a one-day team contract with Nuggets general manager Calvin Booth.

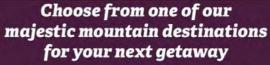
#### MOST VALUABLE TEACHER

The Denver Nuggets are proud to honor teachers and school administrators in Colorado through the Denver Nuggets Most Valuable Teacher (MVT) program, presented by Ford. The MVT program encourages teachers and school administrators to continually strive for excellence and leadership in their schools by offering a unique experience for awardees, including classroom celebrations with Nuggets celebrities, classroom improvement grants, premium tickets to Nuggets games, Nuggets gift bags, and more. The MVT program offers multiple award options for teachers and school administrators within the Denver metro area and throughout the state of Colorado.









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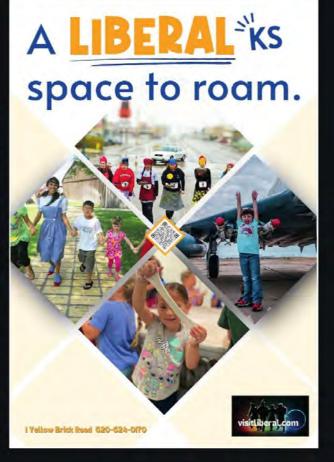
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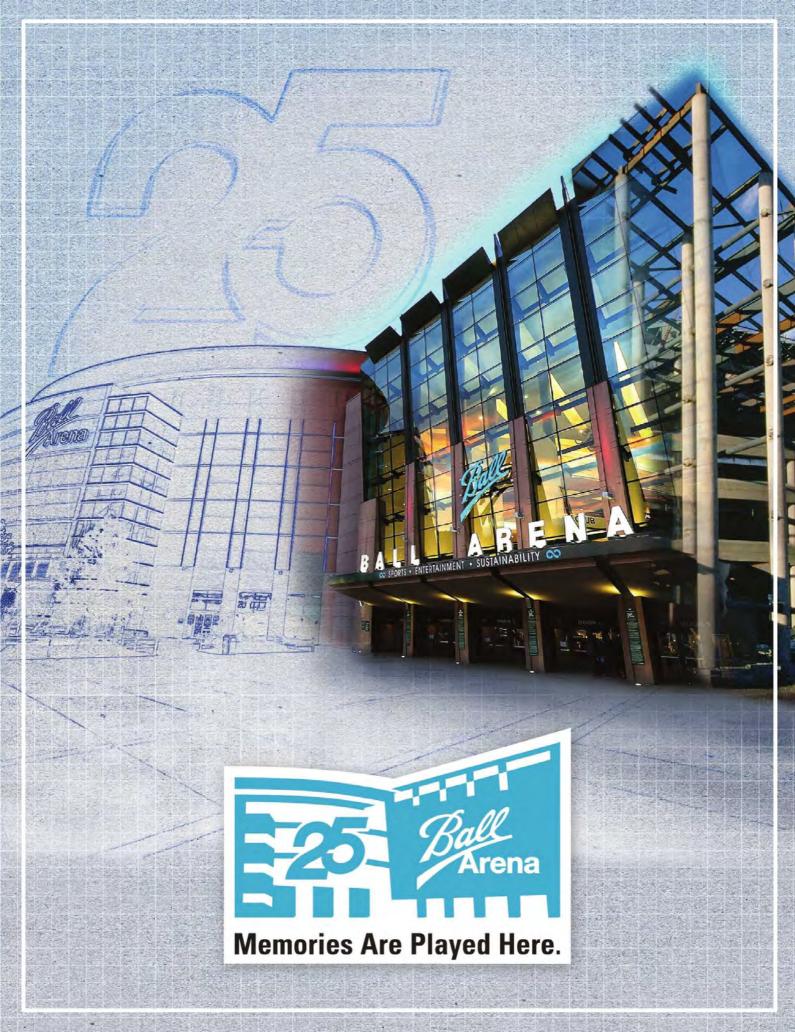




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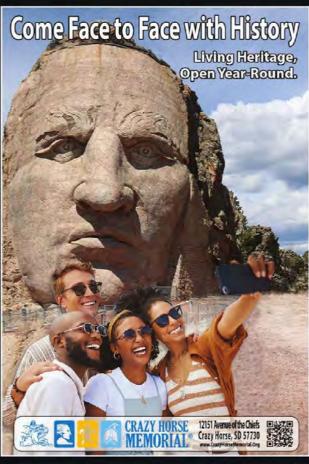
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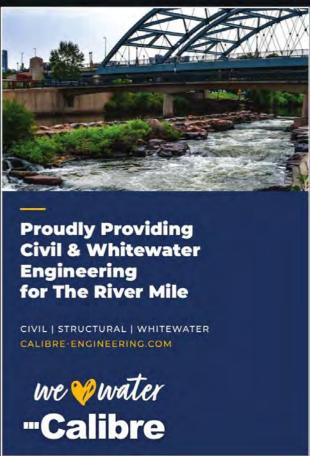
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#### 2024-25 SEASON SCHEDULE

	OCTOBER							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
		1	2	3	10:00 m 4 BOS	5		
BOS.	1	8	9	10	11	12		
ESPN 13 6:30 PHX	14	8:00 15 OKC	16	17	6:00 18 #MIN	19		
20	21	22	23	OKC	25	3:00 26 LAC		
27	5:30 Z8	5:30 29 <b>BKN</b>	30	31				

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					ESPN 1 7:30 MIN	8:00 Z
3	8:00 TOR	5	7:00 6 OKC	7	7:00 8 MIA	
6:00 10 DAL	11	12	13	14	6:00 15 NOP	16
4:00 17 <b>MEM</b>	18	6:00 19 eMEM	20	21	B:00 22	8:30 23 LAL
24	7:00 25 NYK	26	7:00 27 UTA	28	29	30

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
LAC LAC	2	SSW 3	4	5:00 5 CLE	6	5:00 T
4:00 8 ATL	9	EMIRATES10 NBA CUP QUARTER- FINALS	EMIRATES11 NBA CUP QUARTER- FINALS	12	13	14 EMIRATES NBA CUP SEMIFINALS
15	16	EMIRATES17 NBA CUP CHAMPION- SHIP	18	8:00 19 POR	20	21
5:00 22 NOP	8:00 23 PHX	24	PHX	26	7:00 27 CLE	7:00 28 DET
29	7:00 30 UTA	31				

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			7:00 1 ATL	2	7:00 3 SAS	SAS
5	6	BOS 7	7:00 B LAC	9	7:00 10 <b>BKN</b>	1
1:00 12 DAL	13	TNT 14 7:30 DAL	7:00 15 HOU	16	6:00 17 MIA	1
4:00 19 ORL	20	PHI	22	7:00 23 SAC	24	ABC 25 1:00 MIN
26	6:00 27 CHI	28	ESPN 29 5:30 NYK	30	ESPN 31 5:30 PHI	

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						5:00 THA
2	7:00 NOP	4	NOP	ORL 6	1	7:00 PHX
9	7:00 10 POR	11	7:00 12 POR	13	14	NBA 15 ALL-STAR WEEKEND
NBA 16 ALL-STAR WEEKEND	ALT 17	18	19	7:00 <sup>20</sup> CHA	21	EAL 22
23	5:00 24 IND	25	26	TNT 27 5:30 MIL	5:00 28 <b>DET</b>	

		AV.	mnui			
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
ABC 2 11:00 am 2 BOS	3	4	7:00 5 SAC	6	8:00 7 PHX	8
OKC 9	6:00 10 OKC	11	8:00 12 MIN	13	7:30 14 LAL	7:00 15 WAS
16	ESPN 17 8:00 T	18	ESPN 19 8:00 LAL	20	8:00 21 POR	22
5:00 23 HOU 30	7:00 24 CHI 31	25	7:00 26 MIL	27	7:00 28 UTA	29

APRIL								
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
		8:00 1 MIN	7:00 2 SAS	3	8:00 4 GSW	- 1		
6:00 6 IND	7	8	SAC 9	10	7:00 11 MEM	12		
1:30 13 HOU	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	21		
27	28	29	30	31				
		-						

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